

## WATER/WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

### Issue:

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

### Talking Points:

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

### Background:

- Established in 1987 and 1997 respectively, the CWSRF and DWSRF programs comprise 102 environmental finance banks administered by the States and Puerto Rico providing low cost financial assistance to help communities address water infrastructure needs. The CWSRF program has funded over 38,000 assistance agreements (\$126.8 billion in projects). The DWSRF program has funded over 14,000 assistance agreements (\$35.4 billion in projects).
- The CWSRF funds a wide variety of projects addressing highest priority water quality needs.
- The DWSRF priorities are public health protection and household drinking water affordability. States may use approximately 31% of their DWSRF capitalization grants as set-asides for non-infrastructure public health protection activities that strengthen water system operations and help communities fully realize the benefits of infrastructure investments. Approximately \$12 billion in infrastructure assistance has been provided to small systems serving 10,000 or fewer people under DWSRF.
- Congress funded the WIFIA program at \$30 million for FY17, which allowed EPA to announce its first selection round for WIFIA loans. During that selection period, EPA received 43 letters of interest requesting more than \$6 billion in WIFIA credit assistance for infrastructure investments totaling over \$12 billion. In July, we invited 12 projects to apply for loans; these projects will leverage more than \$1 billion in private capital to help finance a total of \$5.1 billion in water infrastructure investments.
- SRF funding can be paired with WIFIA financing. The SRFs focus broadly on all community sizes, including the smallest, and the full range of creditworthiness. WIFIA focuses on the largest projects (typically over \$100 million) with investment grade ratings.
- WIRFC was established in 2015 to provide critical technical assistance to states, local government and non-governmental entities to increase awareness of state-of-the art and innovative infrastructure funding options and financing practices, including public-private partnerships. Center activities focusing on research, innovation and collaboration are helping communities understand their financing options, improving the effectiveness of federal funding and supporting local decision-making for resilient water infrastructure.